

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

200 W. Washington, Suite 301
Indianapolis, IN 46204
(317) 233-0696
<http://www.in.gov/legislative>

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6373

BILL NUMBER: HB 1343

NOTE PREPARED: Dec 17, 2010

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Lake and River Enhancement Fund.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. Neese

FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FUNDS AFFECTED: ☒ GENERAL
☒ DEDICATED
FEDERAL

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: This bill allows money in the Lake and River Enhancement Fund (LARE) to be used for control of exotic or invasive plants in rivers.

Effective Date: July 1, 2011.

Explanation of State Expenditures: The bill provides that LARE funding can be used for projects to control exotic or invasive plants in rivers. Under existing law, LARE can be used for lake projects that could include projects to remove sediment or to control exotic or invasive plants or animals. The bill expands the type of projects for which the fund could be used.

Approved funding for 2009 through 2010 included 30 projects in 14 counties, including 40 lakes, for a total of \$993,040. In 2010, \$2.1 M was transferred from LARE to the state General Fund.

Background. The fund consists of the revenue from the LARE fee paid by boat owners. The amount of the fee varies from \$5 to \$25 and is based on the value of the boat (from less than \$1,000 to at least \$10,000). The revenue from the LARE fee must be deposited as follows:

- (1) 2/3 must be deposited in the LARE fund.
- (2) 1/3 must be deposited in the Conservation Officers Marine Enforcement Fund.

With respect to the LARE fund, under existing law, ½ of the fund must be used to pay administrative costs of the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), and ½ must be used by the DNR for lake projects that could include projects to remove sediment or to control exotic or invasive plants or animals.

LARE fund revenue for FY 2009 and FY 2010 are listed below.

Fund	Description	FY 2009 Revenue	FY2010 Revenue
36010	Lake Enhancement (F&W)	\$2,757,564	\$2,319,216
36020	Conservation Officers Marine Enforcement	\$1,281,101	\$1,173,268
36030	Special Boat Patrol Needs	\$320,275	\$293,317
Fund TOTALS		\$4,358,940	\$3,785,801

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues: Expanding the use of the fund will likely increase the number or type of projects for which the fund can be used.

State Agencies Affected: DNR.

Local Agencies Affected: Entities with lake and river enhancement projects.

Information Sources: DNR.

Fiscal Analyst: Bernadette Bartlett, 317-232-9586.